

# Spatial distribution of isoprene emissions from North America derived from OMI formaldehyde column measurements

Dylan Millet (millet@eps.harvard.edu)  
*Harvard University*

with

D.J. Jacob, K.F. Boersma and T.-M. Fu (*Harvard*),  
T.P. Kurosu and K. Chance (*Harvard-Smithsonian*),  
C.L. Heald (*UC Berkeley*), and A. Guenther (*NCAR*)

thanks to



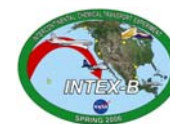
NASA-ACMAP



NOAA C&GC  
Postdoctoral Program



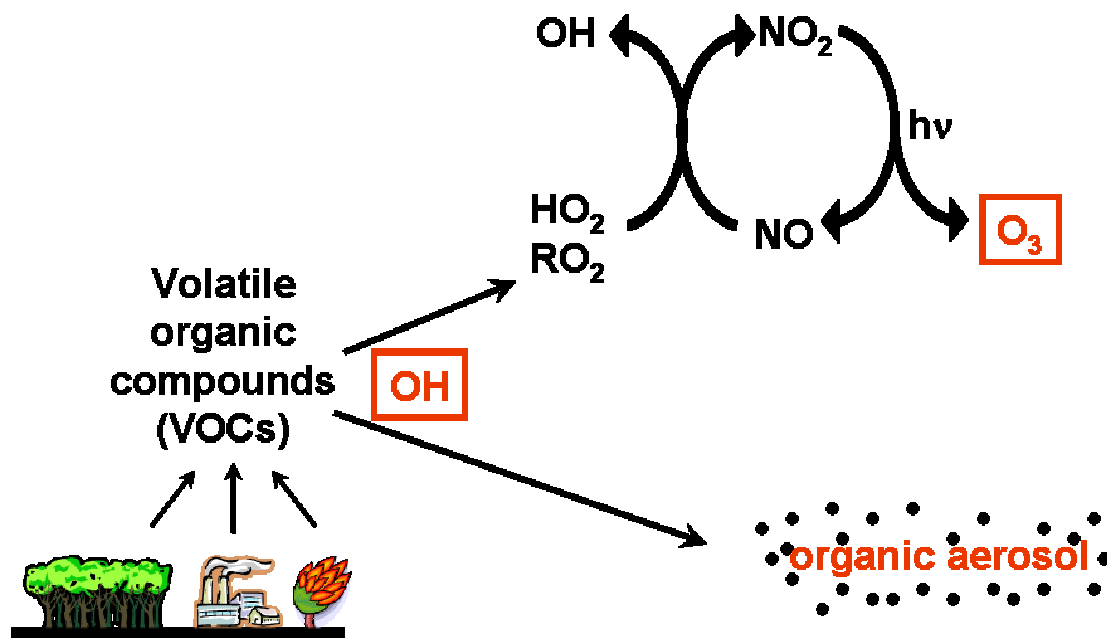
OMI Science Team



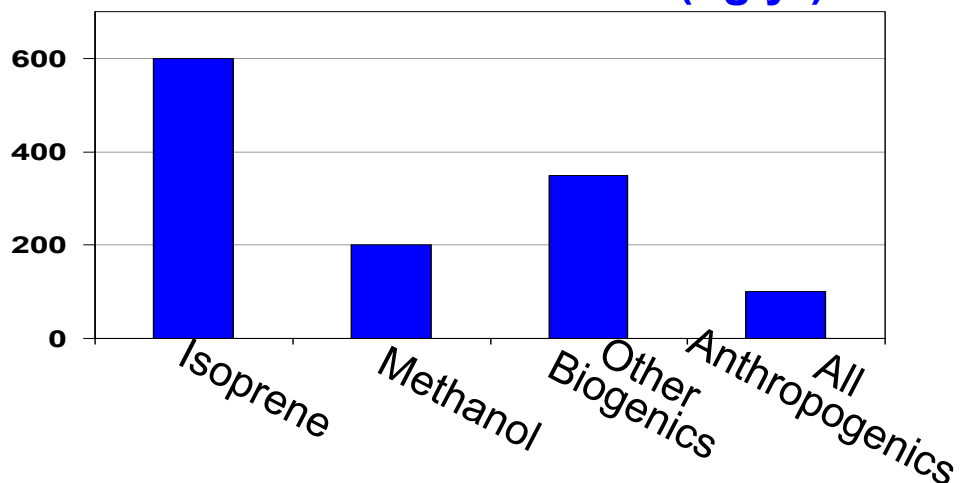
INTEX Science Teams

Aura Science Team Meeting  
October 5, 2007

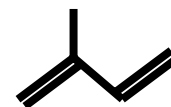
# Isoprene: The Most Important Non-Methane VOC



Global VOC Emissions (Tg/yr)

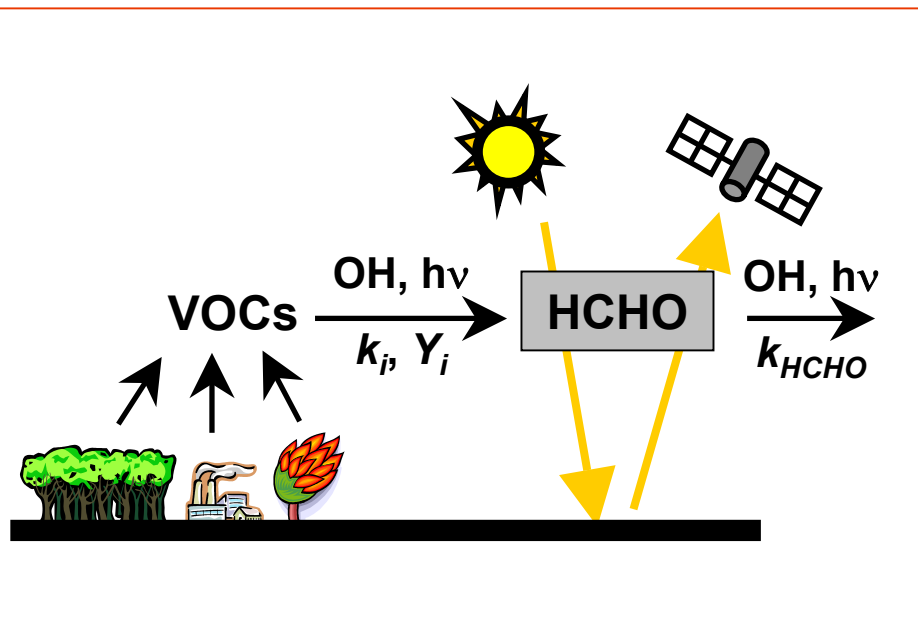


## Isoprene

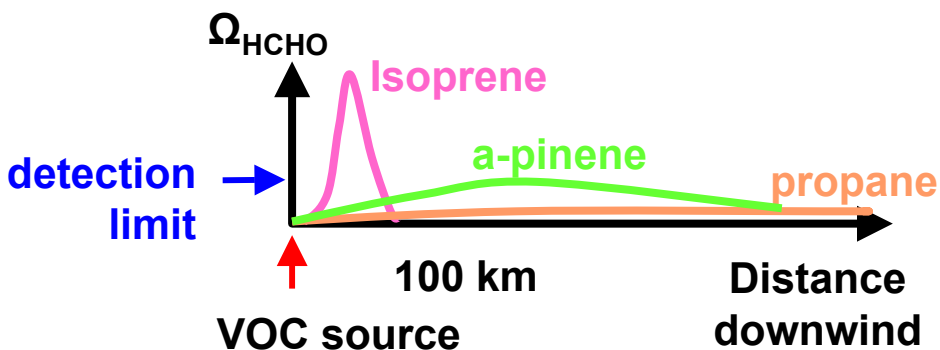
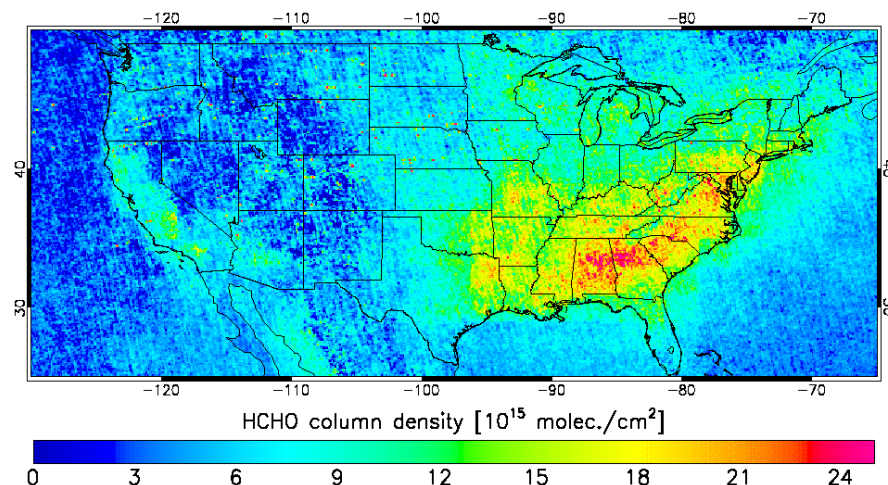


Global emissions ~ methane  
(but  $> 10^4$  times more reactive)  
~ 6x anthropogenic VOC emissions  
Produced enzymatically in plant  
chloroplasts

# Relating HCHO Columns to Isoprene Emission



HCHO vertical columns measured by OMI  
(Summer 2006)



Palmer et al., JGR (2003,2006)  
Millet et al., JGR (2006)

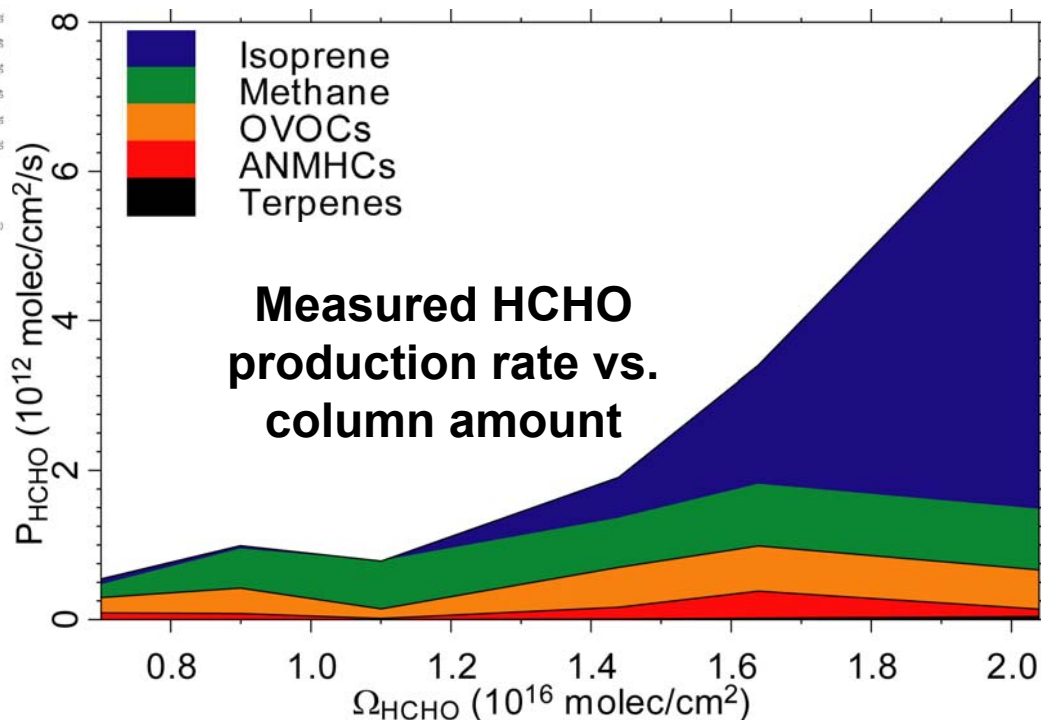
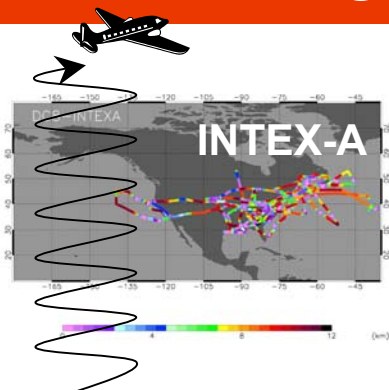
## Local $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}-E_i$ Relationship

$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = \frac{1}{k_{\text{HCHO}}} \sum_i Y_i E_i$$



$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = S \cdot E_{\text{isoprene}} + B$$

# Relating HCHO Columns to Isoprene Emission



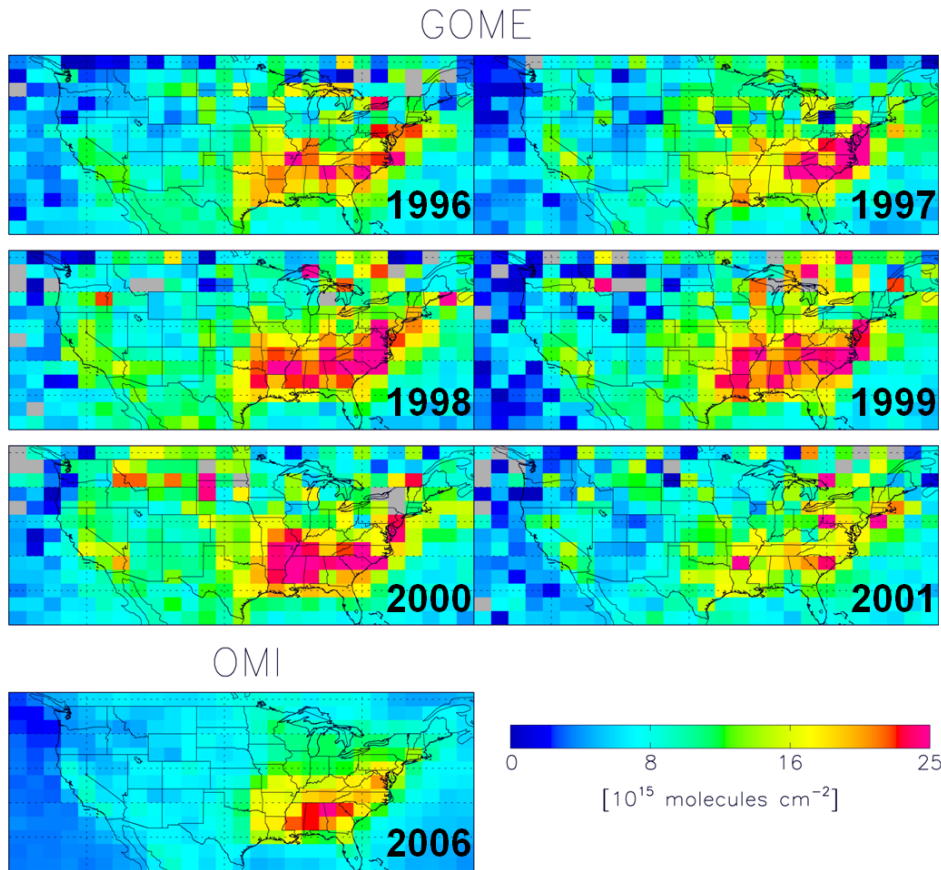
## What drives variability in column HCHO?

Isoprene dominant source when  $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}$  is high

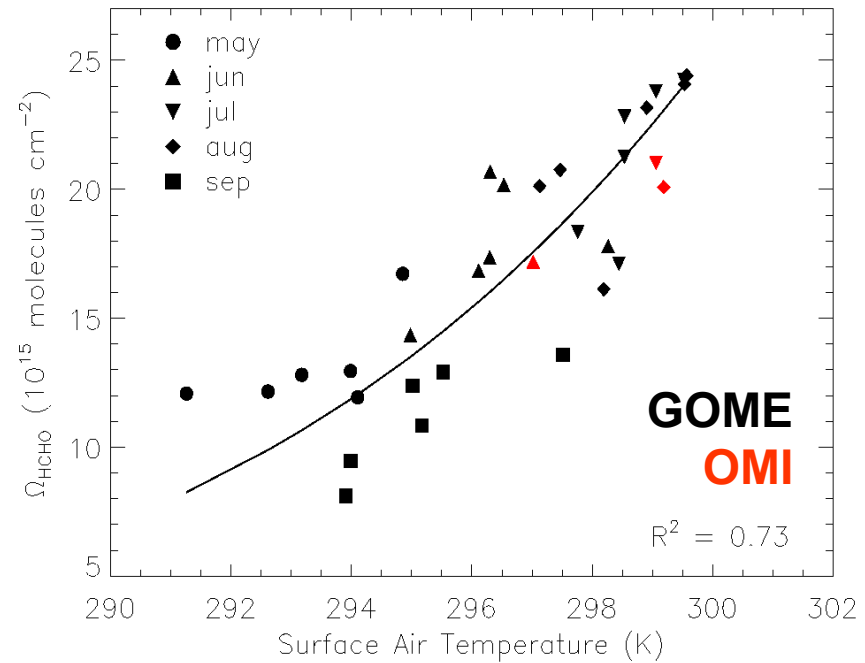
Other VOCs give rise to a relatively stable background  $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}$   
→ Not to variability detectable from space

$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}$  variability over N. America driven by isoprene

# OMI vs. GOME



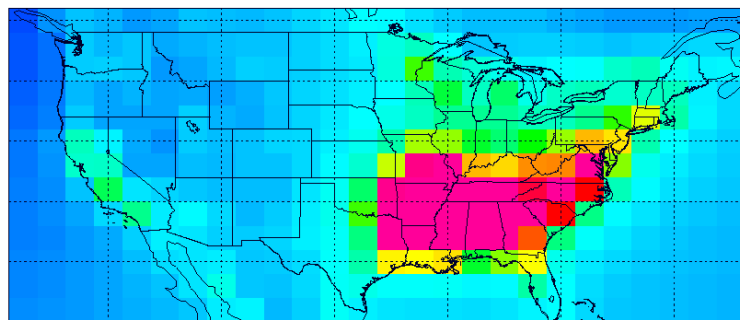
Monthly mean HCHO columns  
over SE US



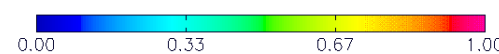
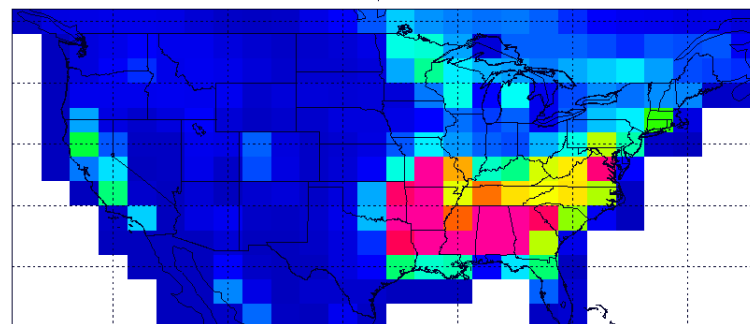
Updated OMI HCHO within 2-14% of GOME over US  
(after accounting for interannual climate differences)

# Relating HCHO Columns to Isoprene Emissions

GEOS-Chem HCHO Column

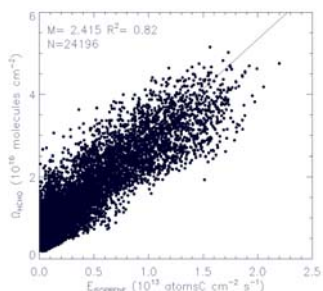


MEGAN\_V2 Isoprene Emission



[10<sup>15</sup> molecules cm<sup>-2</sup>]

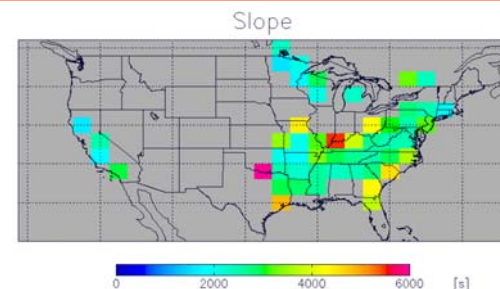
[10<sup>13</sup> atomsC cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>]



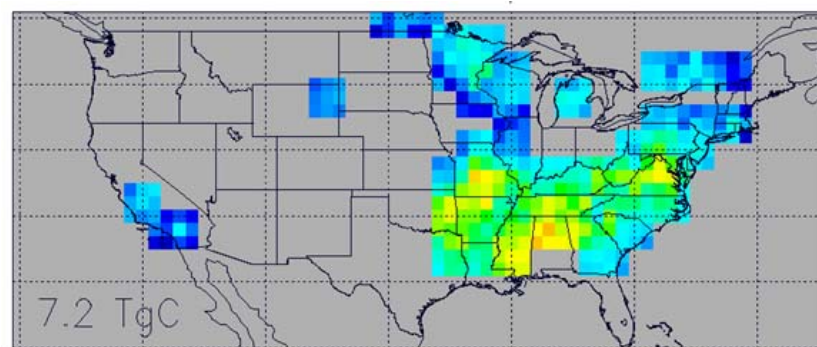
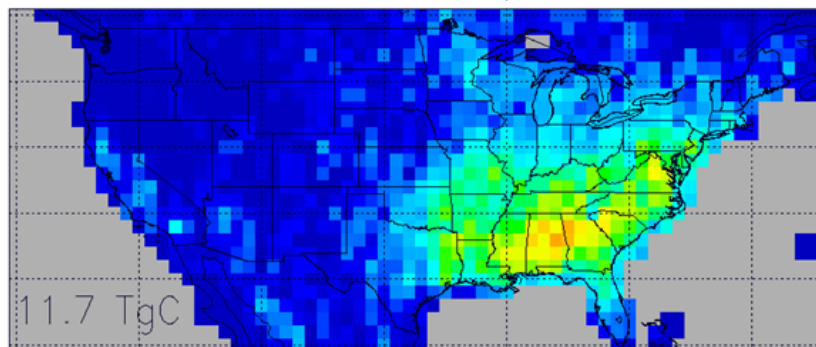
$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = SE_{\text{isoprene}} + B$$

**Uniform**  
 $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} - E_{\text{isoprene}}$   
relationship

**Variable**  
 $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} - E_{\text{isoprene}}$   
relationship



OMI Isoprene Emission



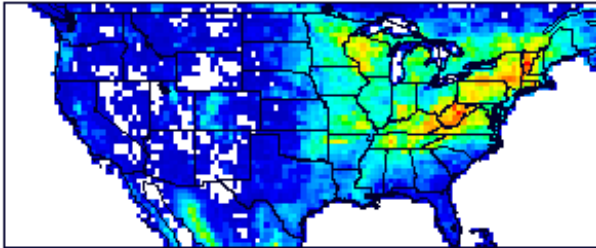
[10<sup>13</sup> atomsC cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>]



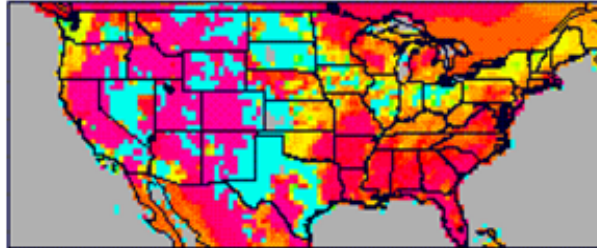
# Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature

*Guenther et al., ACP (2006)*

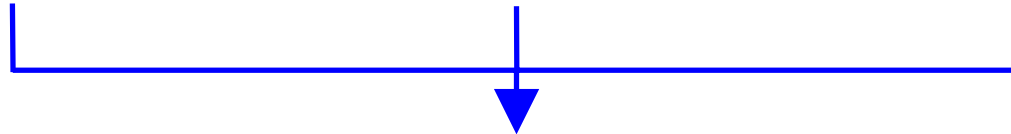
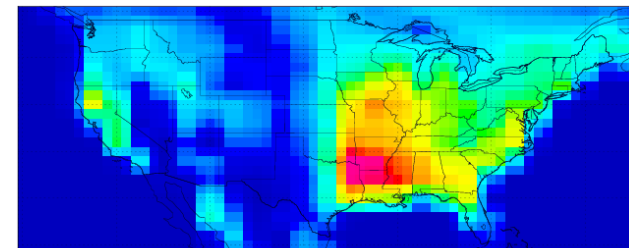
**Land cover database**  
(*Community Land Model, AVHRR*)



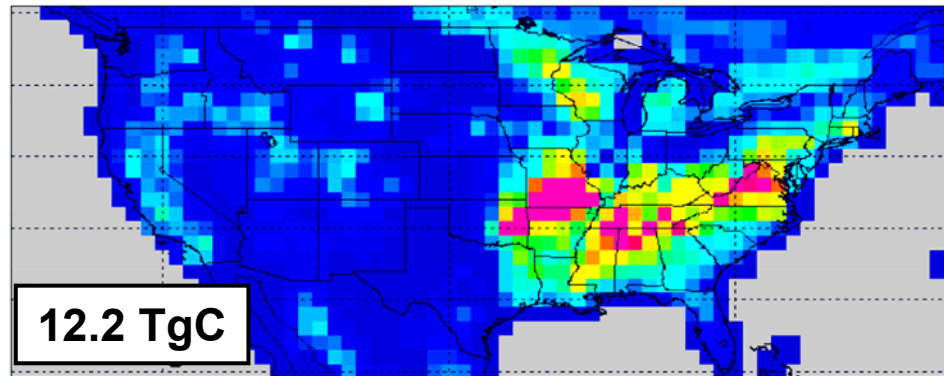
**Vegetation-specific baseline  
emission factors**



**Environmental drivers**  
(*T, h<sub>v</sub>, LAI, leaf age, ...*)



**MEGAN Isoprene Emissions (June-August, 2006)**

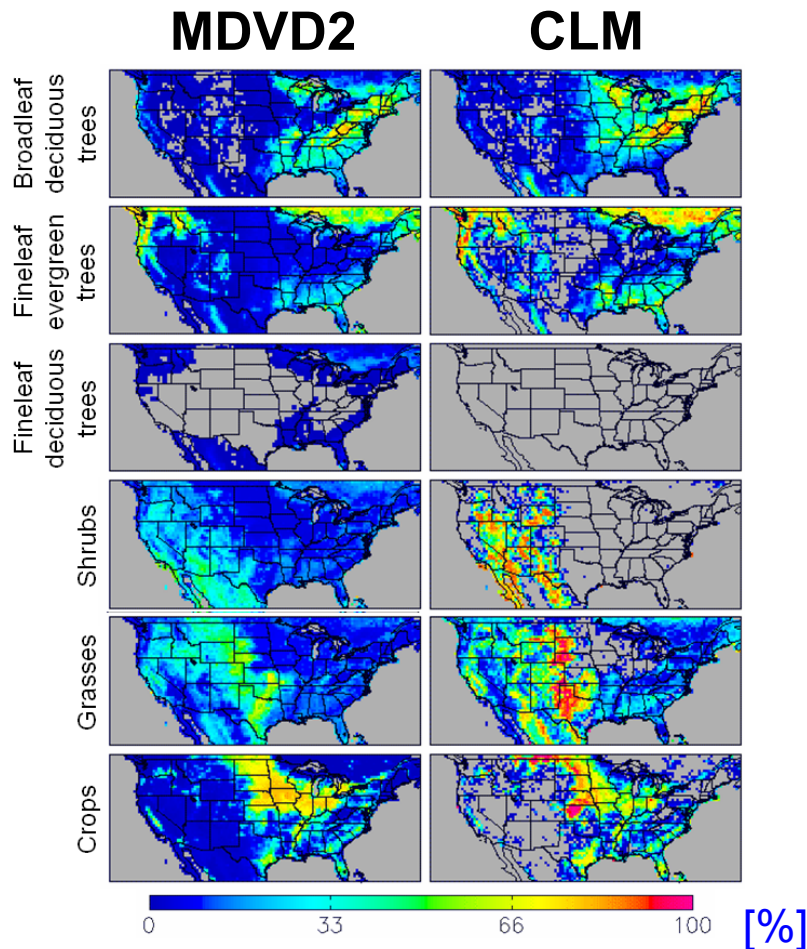


0.00      0.33      0.67      1.00      [ $10^{13}$  atomsC cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>]

# Drive MEGAN with 2 Land Cover Databases

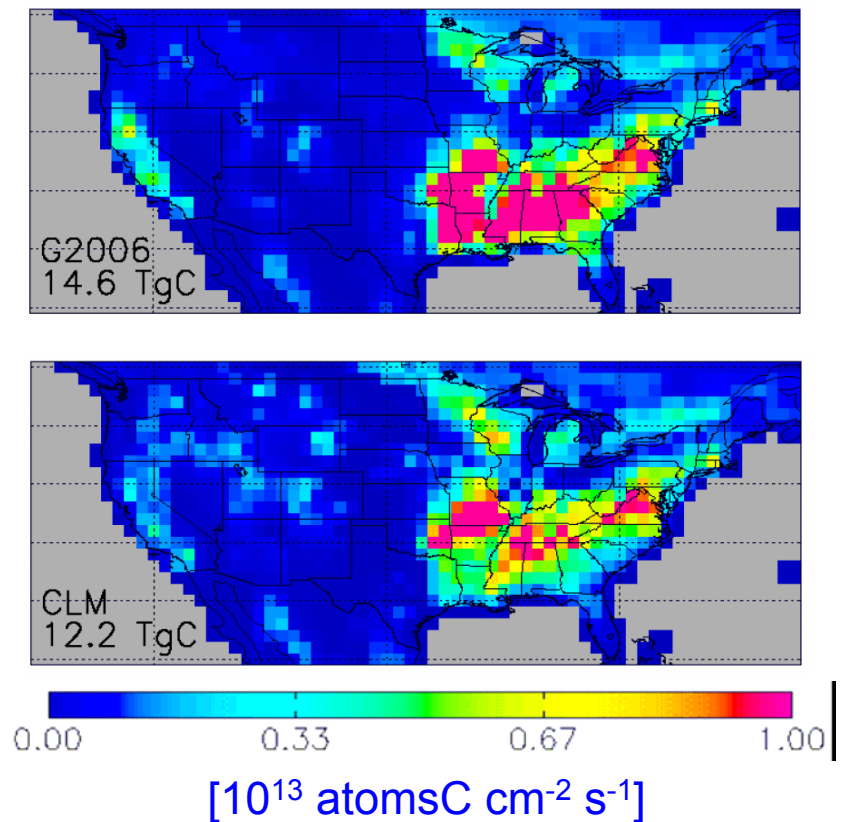
*MDVD2 (MODIS/AVHRR/Ground truth)*  
*CLM (AVHRR/IGBP DISCover)*

## Plant Functional Type Coverage



## Isoprene Emission

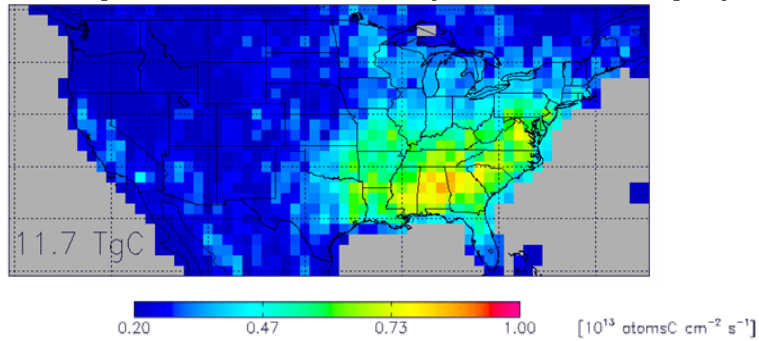
June-August 2006



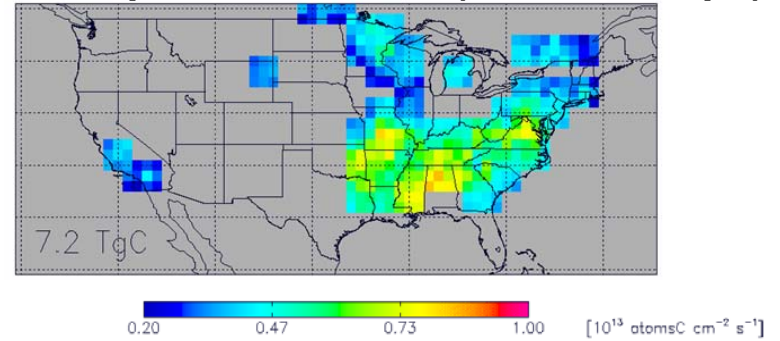


# OMI Isoprene Emission vs. MEGAN-CLM

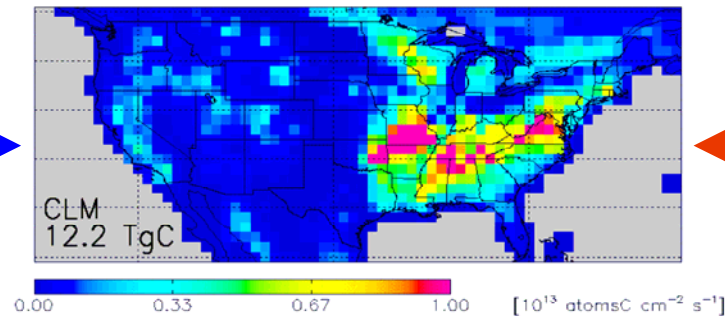
OMI isoprene emission (uniform slope)



OMI isoprene emission (variable slope)



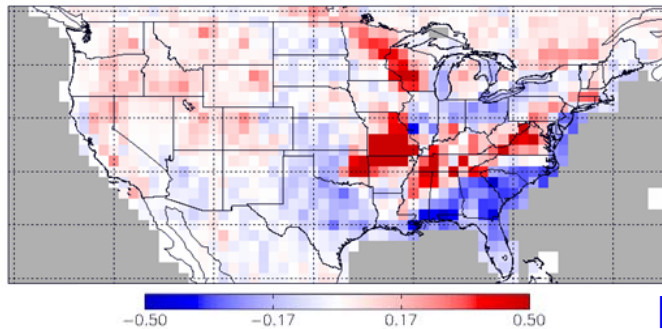
MEGAN w/ CLM vegetation



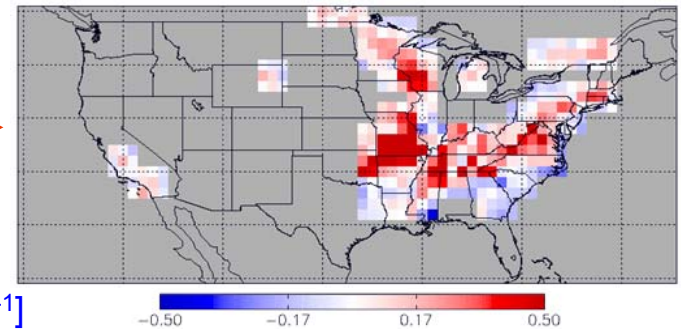
Uniform  
 $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}-E_{\text{isoprene}}$   
relationship

Variable  
 $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}}-E_{\text{isoprene}}$   
relationship

MEGAN - OMI



MEGAN - OMI



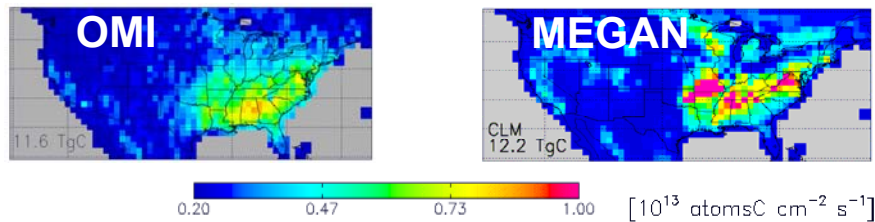
$[10^{13} \text{ atomsC cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}]$

# Spatial Patterns in Isoprene Emissions

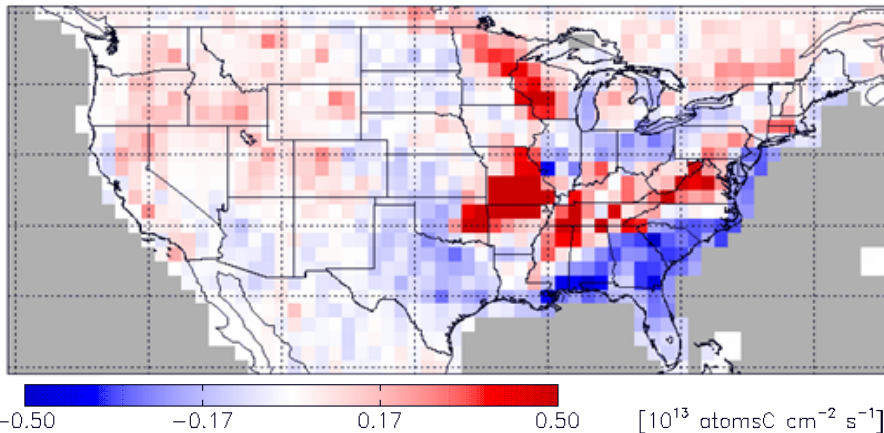
MEGAN higher than OMI over dominant emission regions

Large sensitivity to surface database used

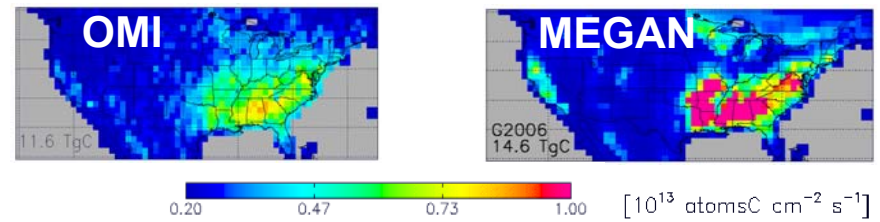
## MEGAN with CLM vegetation



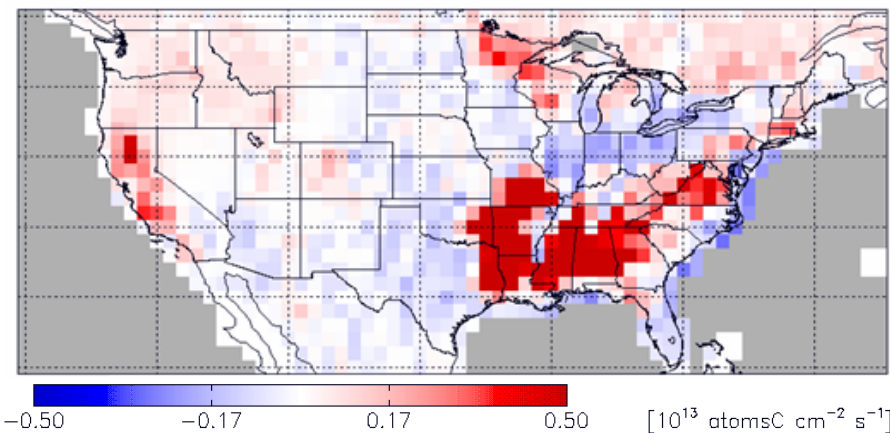
**MEGAN - OMI Isoprene Emissions  
June-August, 2006**



## MEGAN with MDVD2 vegetation



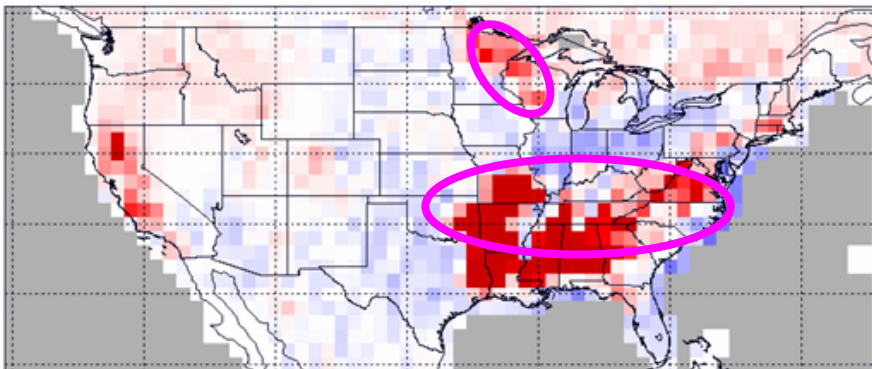
**MEGAN - OMI Isoprene Emissions  
June-August, 2006**



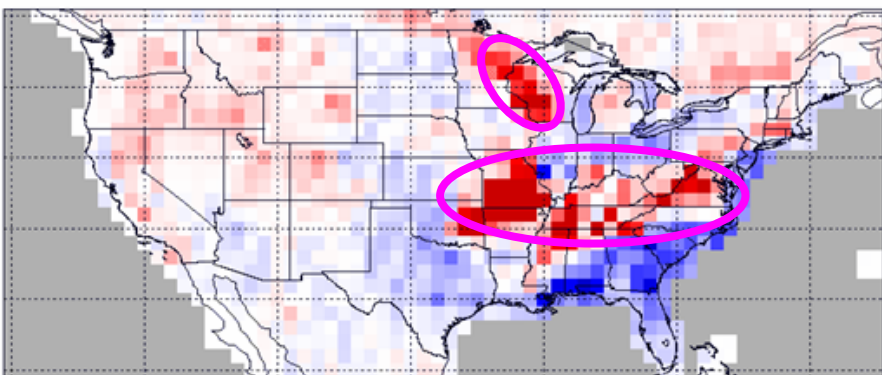
# Bottom-Up Emissions Too High in Dominant Source Regions

**MEGAN - OMI Isoprene Emissions**  
June-August, 2006

**MEGAN w/ MDVD2 Land Cover**



**MEGAN w/ CLM Land Cover**



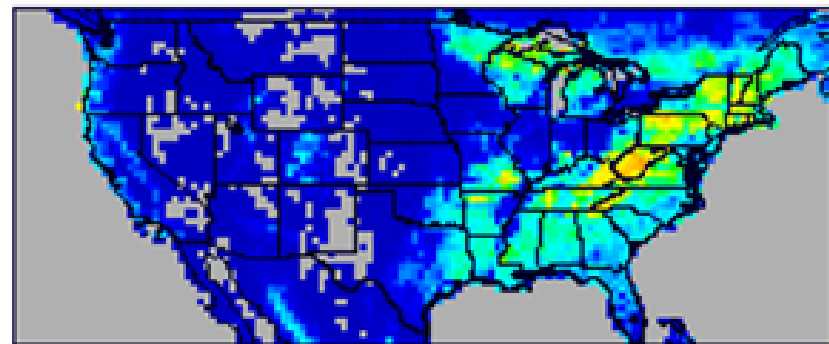
-0.50   -0.17   0.17   0.50   [ $10^{13}$  atomsC cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$ ]

**MEGAN emissions >70% too high over much of the Ozark Plateau, Upper South, Upper Midwest**

*Large regional emissions driven by oak tree cover, high temperatures*

**Broadleaf tree isoprene emissions overestimated**

**MDVD2 Broadleaf Trees**

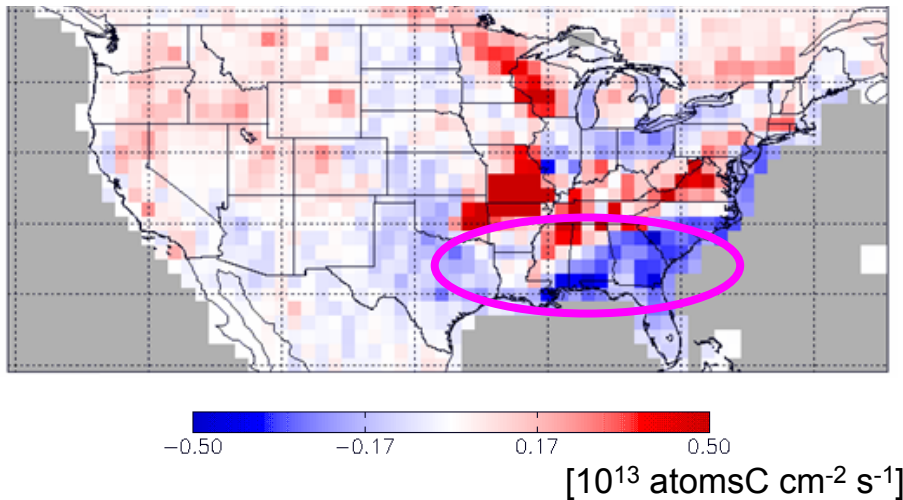


0   33   66   100   [%]

# CLM-Driven Emissions Too Low in Deep South

Bias in modeled emissions: >100%

## OMI – MEGAN Isoprene Emissions June-August, 2006

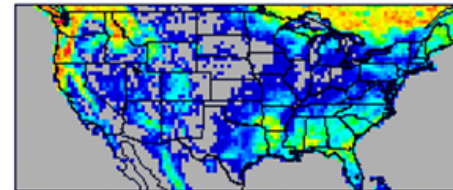


Underestimate of broadleaf tree coverage  
in understory

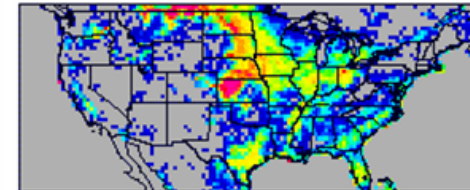
-or-

Modeled emissions from evergreen trees or  
crops too low

CLM  
Fineleaf Evergreens

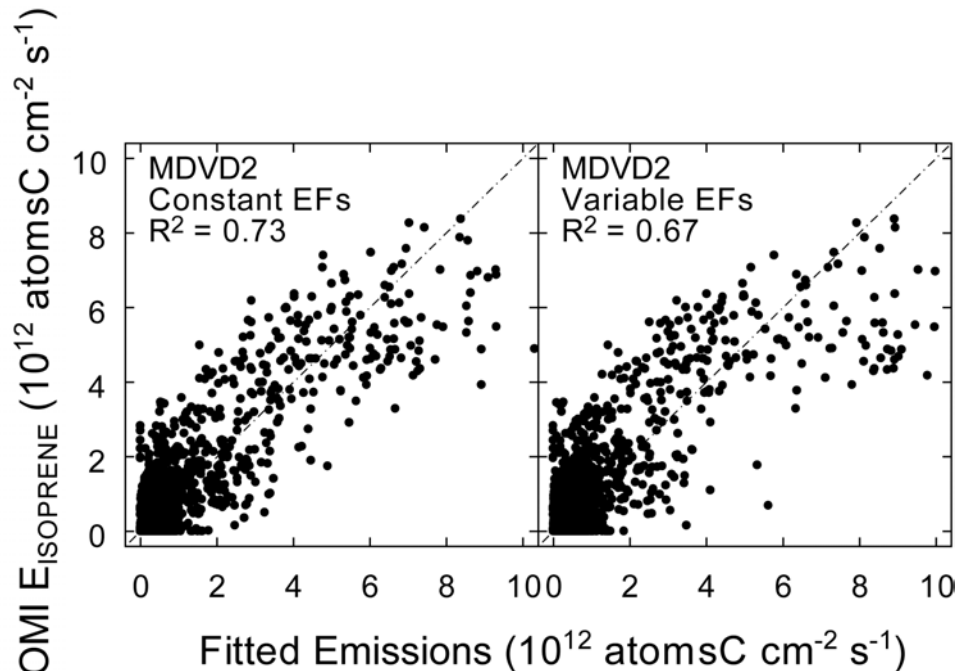


CLM  
Crops



0 33 66 100 [%]

# Constraints on Emission Factors



**Regress OMI isoprene emissions against MDVD2 PFTs**

## Constant EFs

More consistent with OMI

Optimum broadleaf tree EF:

- $13 \times 10^{12}$  atomsC/ $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$
- similar to MEGAN mean
- rejects MEGAN's use of 3-4x higher EFs in certain locations

Possible explanation for OMI-MEGAN discrepancy:  
Fast chemical loss within forest canopies?

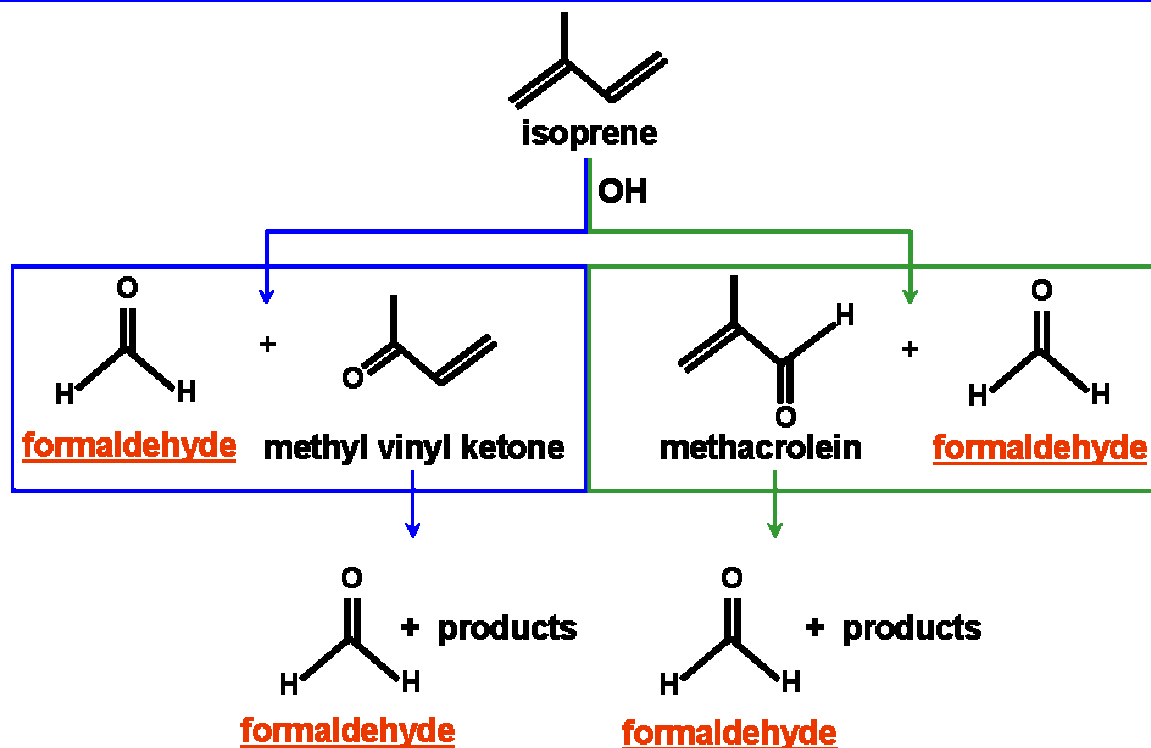
*Farmer and Cohen [2007], Kuhn et al. [2007]*

# Extra Slides

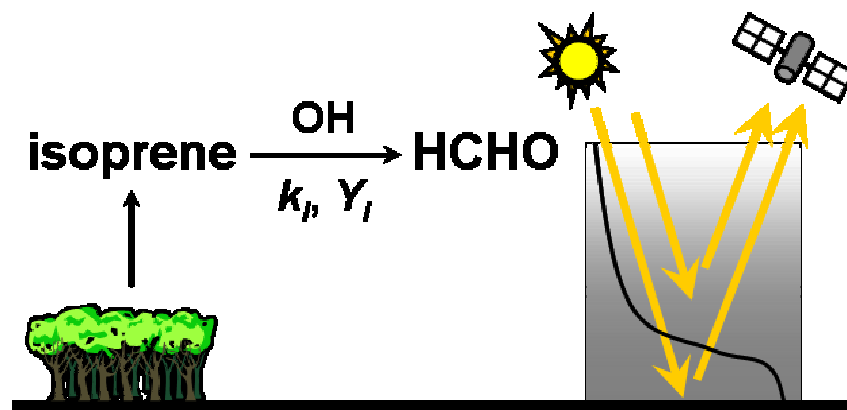


# Mapping Isoprene Emissions from Space

Formaldehyde (HCHO) is a major breakdown product in the oxidation of isoprene



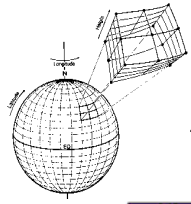
→ Giving us an isoprene emission proxy that can be measured from space



# Bottom-Up Biogenic VOC Emission Estimates

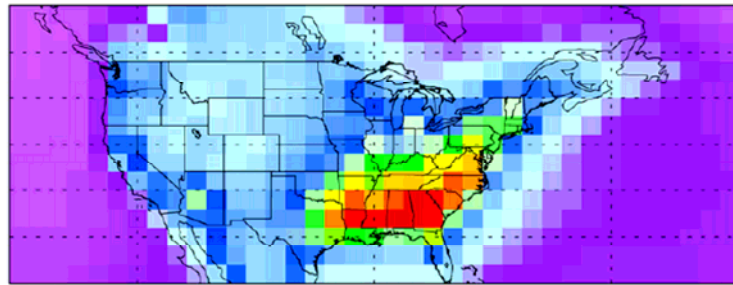
**Can we derive top-down constraints from satellites to test the bottom-up inventories?**

# HCHO Column Distribution over North America



**GEOS-Chem global 3D model of atmospheric chemistry**  
*driven by assimilated meteorology*

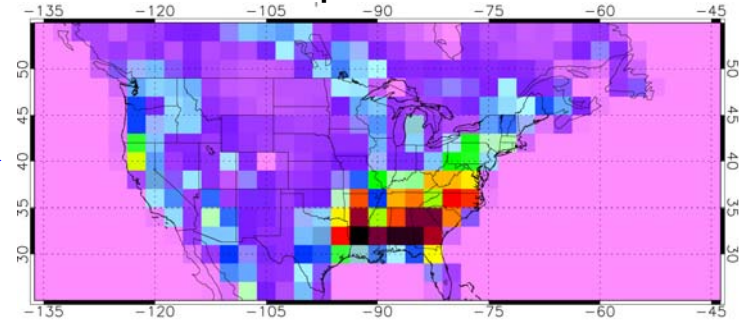
Modeled HCHO Columns



$[10^{16} \text{ molecules cm}^{-2}]$

0.00 1.00 2.00 3.00

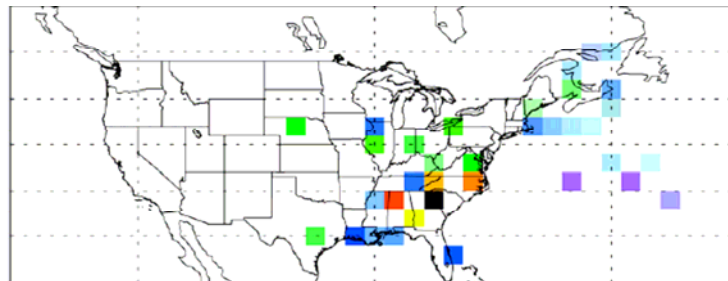
MEGAN Isoprene Emissions



0.00e+00 2.20e+11 4.40e+11 6.60e+11  $[\text{molec}/\text{cm}^2/\text{s}]$

**INTEX-A aircraft experiment**  
*summer 2004*

Measured HCHO Columns



$[10^{16} \text{ molecules cm}^{-2}]$

0.00 1.00 2.00 3.00

*Millet et al.,  
JGR (2006).*

# GEOS-Chem Global 3D Model of Atmospheric Chemistry

## GEOS-4 assimilated meteorological data from the NASA Goddard Earth Observing System

*winds, convective mass fluxes, mixing depths, temperature, precipitation, surface properties*

*6-hour temporal resolution (3-hour for surface variables and mixing depths)*

*1° × 1.25° horizontal resolution (degraded to 2x2.5 for input to GEOS-Chem)*

*55 vertical layers*

*advection every 15 minutes using a flux-form semi-Lagrangian method (Lin and Rood, 1996)*

## Emissions

*anthropogenic (EPA NEI99, BRAVO, EDGAR, EMEP, Streets)*

*biogenic (MEGAN, Jacob 2002 & 2005, Yienger and Levy 1995)*

*biomass burning (GFED2) & biofuel*

## Ozone-NO<sub>x</sub>-VOC chemistry coupled to aerosols

### Dry deposition

*standard resistance-in-series scheme (Wesely, 1989)*

### Wet deposition

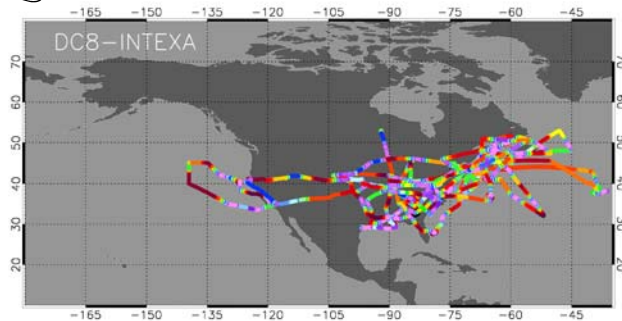
*convective scavenging, rainout (in-cloud), washout (below-cloud) (Liu, 2001)*

## Aerosol chemistry and radiative effects

# Testing HCHO Column Measurements From Space

## Aircraft Measurements

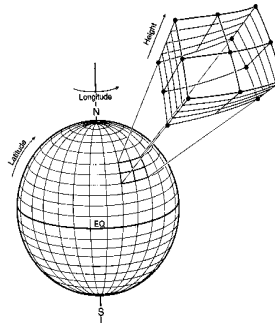
INTEX-A atmospheric chemistry experiment  
over North America (summer 2004)



## Chemical transport modeling

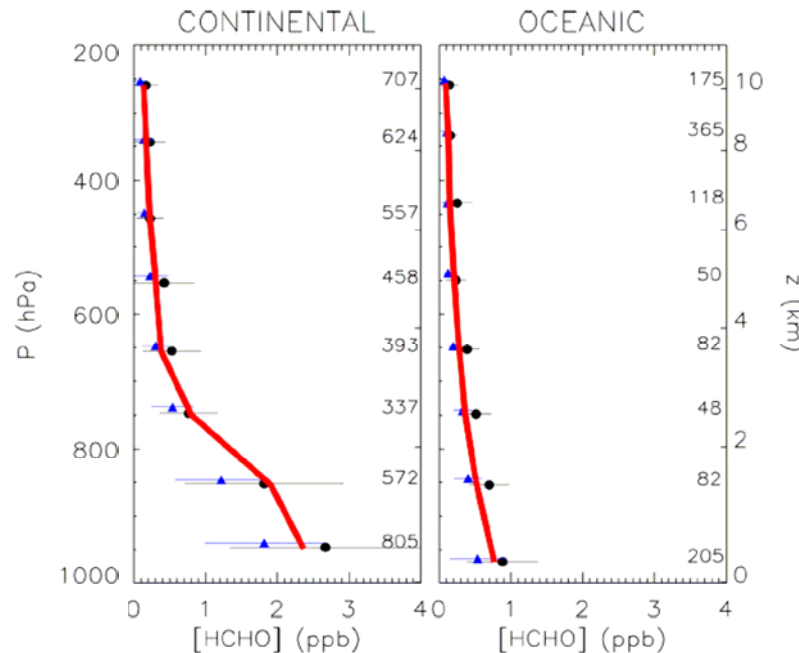
GEOS-Chem global 3D model of  
atmospheric chemistry

Driven by assimilated meteorology



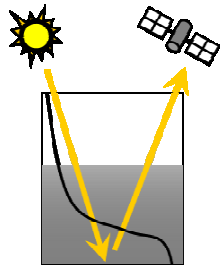
*Source of external  
information in HCHO  
retrieval*

● ▲ Observed HCHO  
— Simulated HCHO

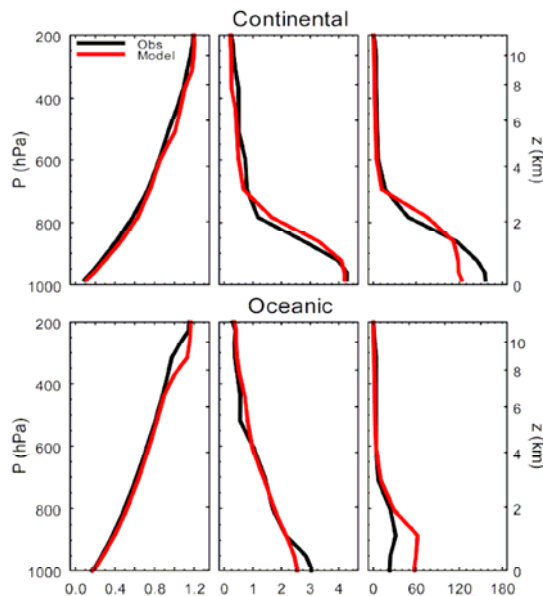


***HCHO vertical  
distribution well  
simulated***

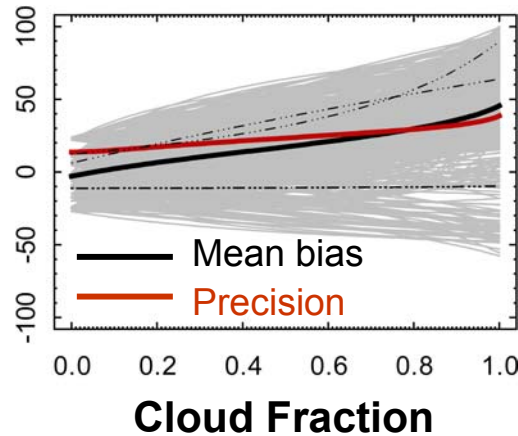
# Testing HCHO Column Measurements From Space



$$\frac{\Omega_{slant}}{\Omega_{vertical}} = f(\text{atmospheric scattering, HCHO vertical profile, surface albedo})$$



**Percent Error**



Clouds:  
primary source of error

1 $\sigma$  error in HCHO satellite  
measurements:  
25–31%

Recommended cloud cutoff:  
50%

**Sensitivity** **Shape Factor** **b<sub>EXT</sub> (Mm<sup>-1</sup>)**

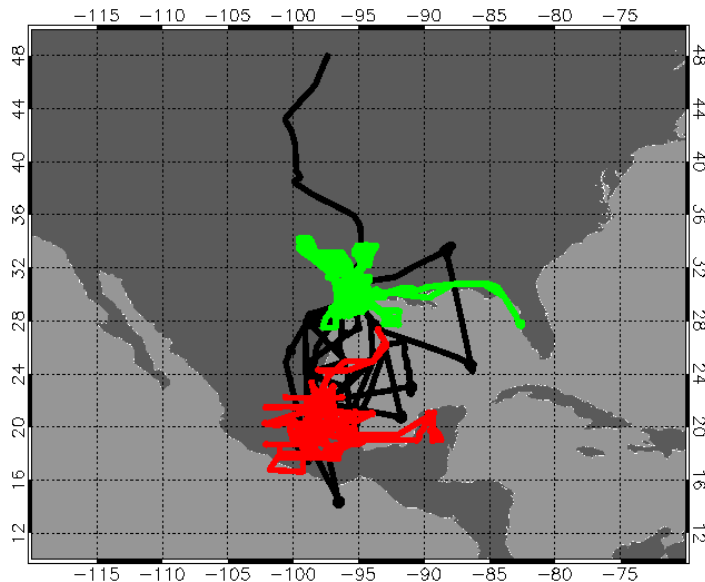




# Testing HCHO Column Measurements From Space

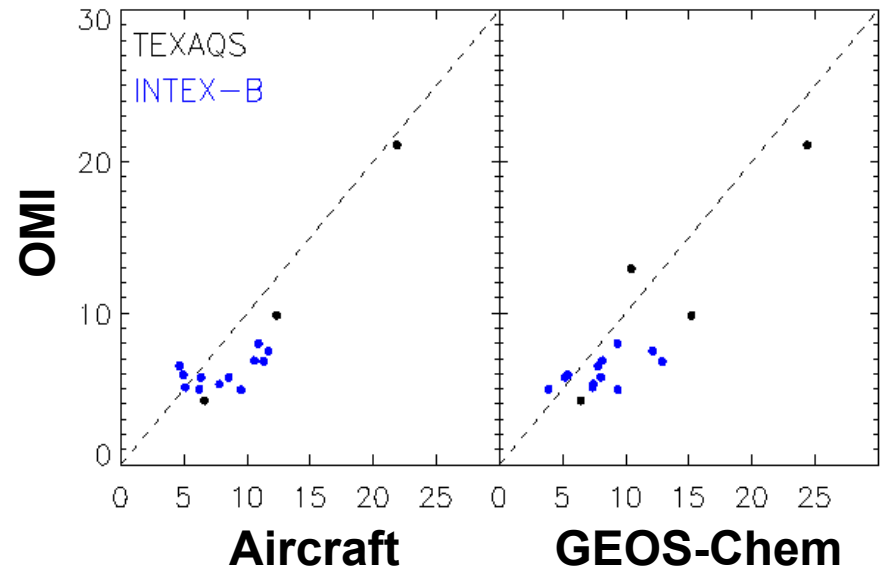
## 2006 Aircraft Campaigns

**INTEX-B**  
**MILAGRO**  
**TEXAQS-2006**



## OMI vs. Aircraft Data & GEOS-Chem

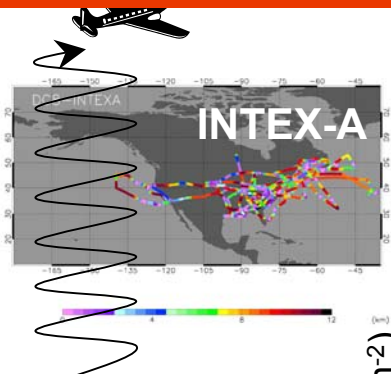
HCHO Columns  
[ $10^{15}$  molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2}$ ]



*Aircraft measurements by A. Fried*

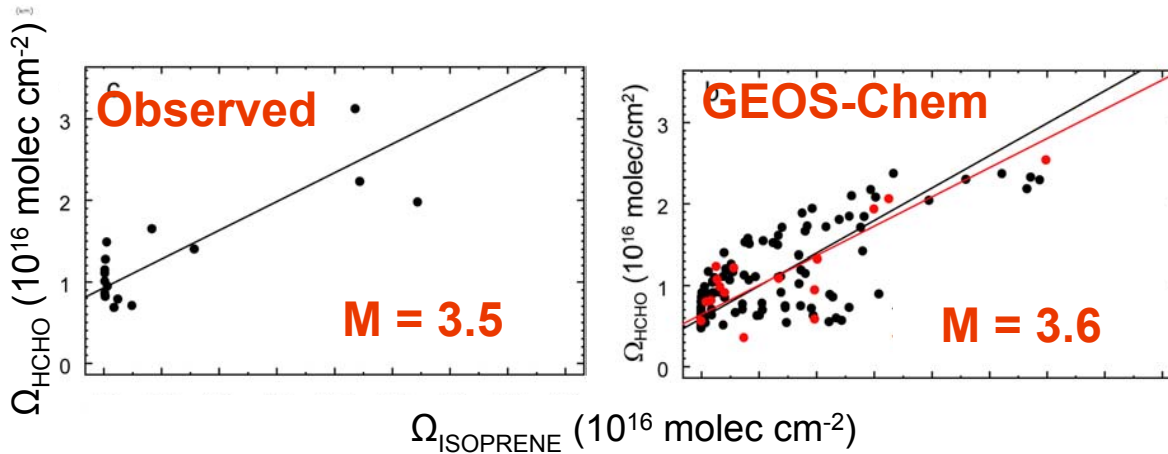
Limited direct validation data shows consistency between aircraft measurements and OMI

# Relating HCHO Columns to Isoprene Emission



Testing the Modeled  $\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} - E_{\text{isoprene}}$  Slope

$$\Omega_{\text{HCHO}} = S \cdot E_{\text{isoprene}} + B$$



## HCHO yield from isoprene

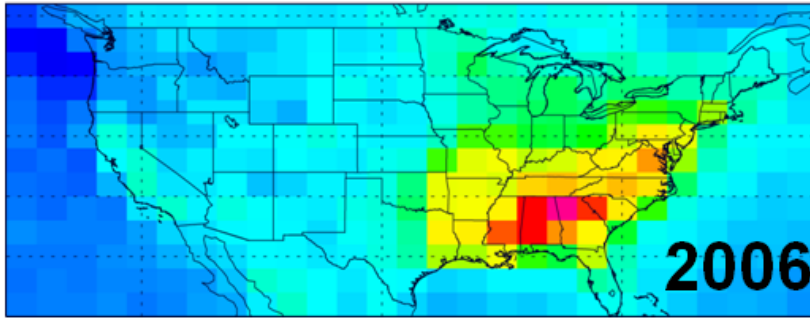
From aircraft profiles during INTEX-A:

$\text{HCHO yield from isoprene} = 1.6 \pm 0.5$

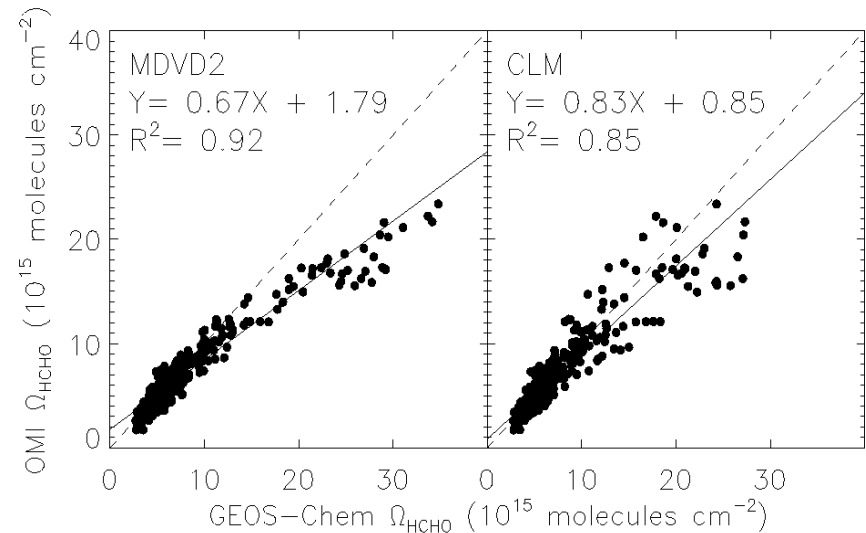
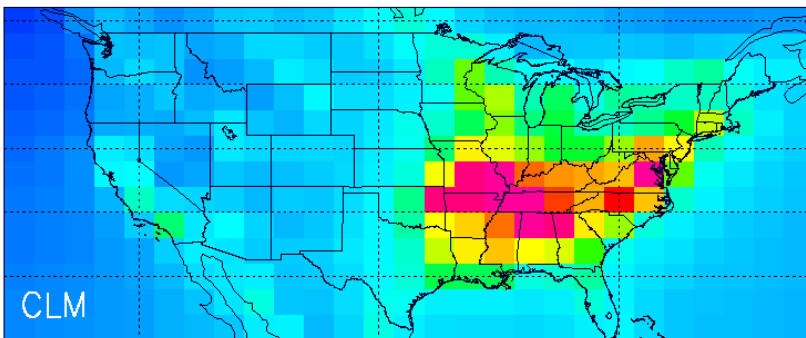
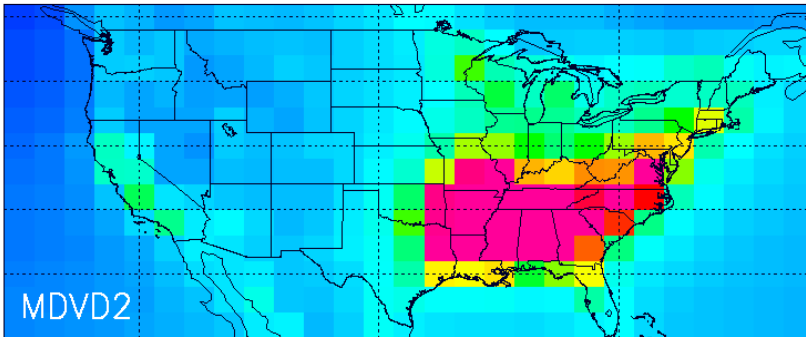
Consistent with current chemical mechanisms

# OMI vs. GEOS-Chem with MEGAN Emissions

OMI

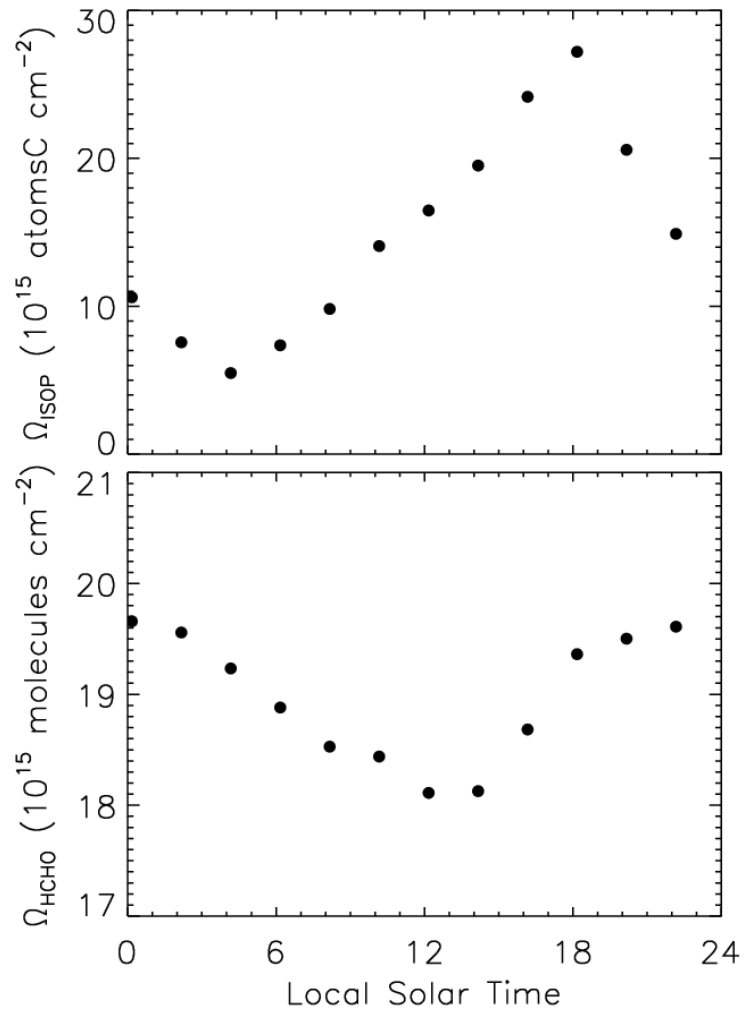


GEOS-Chem



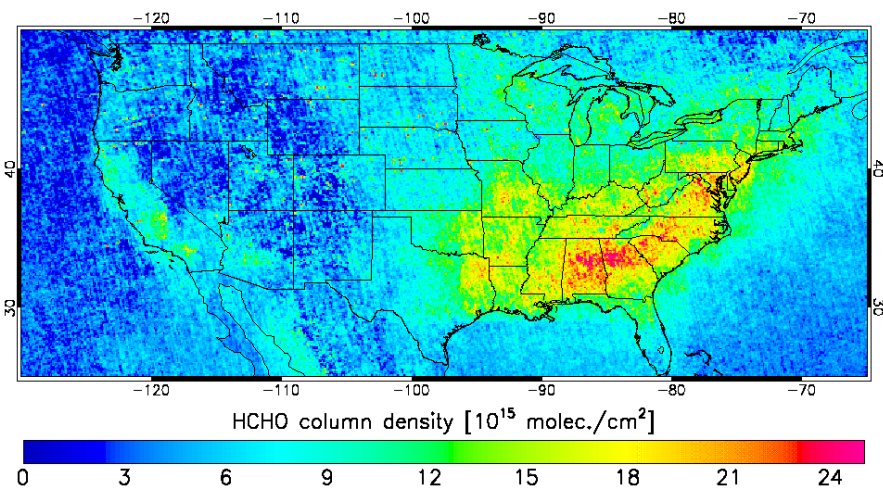
0.00e+00 8.33e+15 1.67e+16 2.50e+16 [molecules  $\text{cm}^{-2}$ ]

# Diel Cycle in Isoprene and HCHO Columns over SE US

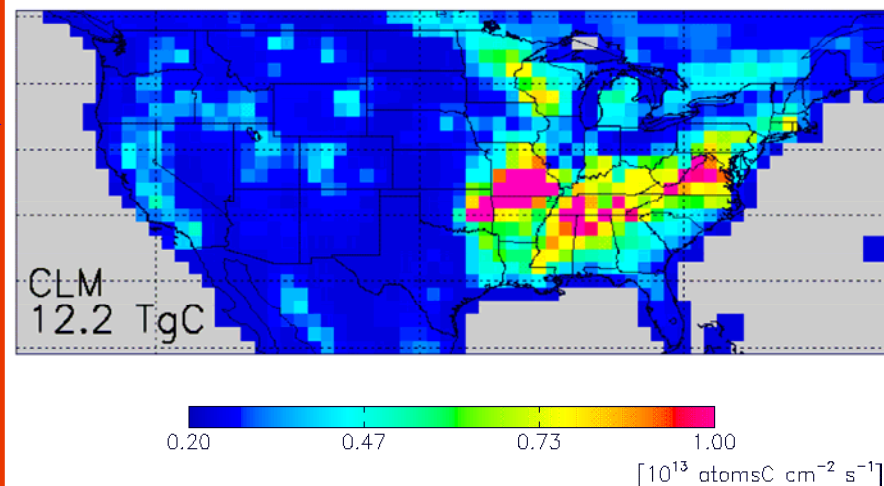


# Defining Spatial Distribution of $E_{\text{isoprene}}$ Using OMI HCHO

HCHO columns from OMI satellite instrument (summer 2006)



Isoprene emissions from the MEGAN biogenic emission inventory (summer 2006)



**test bottom-up inventories against top-down constraints from OMI**



**mismatch in hotspot locations**



**implications for OH, O<sub>3</sub>, SOA production**